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SUBJECT Soviet Rubber Purchases from Singapore

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. The following is statistical information on Soviet purchases of rubber from Singapore for the year ending June 1948:
- 29.2 N Total amount purchased: 22,530 tons at 2240 pounds per ton
- 29.2 4L Average price: US\$22 per pound
- 29.2 1L Terms: F.O.B. Singapore, 50% of payment to be made at time of signing contract and 50% at time of delivery
- 41 N Contracts were made by the Soviets with the following firms:
- (1). Permata Rubber Company for 8000 tons, concluded in London by the head office of the Permata Rubber Company, price—22¢ per pound, contract signed on 18 August 1947, payment made by Moscow Narodny Bank to head office of Permata in London. On September 1947, the same amount was paid to George Macbain, representative of Permata in Hongkong, and delivery was made on the Soviet steamer "Dvina" on 29 September 1947.
- (2). The Kedah Rubber Estates, Incorporated, for 7500 tons at 22 cents per pound on 14 January 1948; delivery was made on 15 March 1948; payment was made in full to the London office by the Moscow Narodny Bank at the time of signing the contract in British Government drafts.
- (3). The Kuala Lumpur Rubber Estates, ordered through a local Shanghai firm, Centre and Company, 365 Peiping Road, 7050 tons of rubber at 23 cents per pound on 22 February 1948; amount was paid in four installments from the Shanghai Branch of the Moscow Narodny Bank; delivery was made about the end of May 1948 on the Soviet steamer "Yaroslav" in Bangkok.
2. At the present time, negotiations are being carried out in London by N. I. Sergeyev, Soviet Trade Representative in London, for the purchase of other amounts of rubber; however, the firms in Singapore have already increased their prices for ordinary grades of rubber from that of 23 to 24 cents per pound and the higher grades up to 26 cents per lb.
3. In addition to these imports of rubber, the USSR is now in the process of fitting five large synthetic rubber factories in the city of Batum (Yedou) which will make rubber from waste materials of the oil and petroleum industries there.

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